

Bruce Davidson: Subway



April 30 – June 12, 2004

New York – The Howard Greenberg Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of Bruce Davidson's groundbreaking color work from his *Subway* series. Coinciding with St. Ann's press revised edition of Davidson's book *Subway*, the exhibition celebrates the evolving public interest in this seminal work. The public is cordially invited to a reception at the gallery on Thursday, April 29, 2004, from 6 – 8 pm.

First published in 1986, *Subway* is an original document of New York City culture in the late seventies and early eighties. This year, St. Ann's press has published a newly expanded, revised edition including forty-two additional unseen photographs; a new forward by Fred Braithwaite (Fab 5 Freddy), and a new introduction by Arthur Ollman, Director of the Museum of Photographic Art in San Diego. Released on the eve of New York City subway's centennial, this stunning book is a window into the recent past of this ever-changing city.

The gallery is pleased to be showing the first prints of the *Subway* series to be made since the original printing of the book. Fully surrendering himself to this world in transit, Davidson comes back to us having extracted visions that can be tender or terrifying, all of which united by his clear-eyed humanity. As Davidson comments: "color in the subway was different... the light reflecting off the metallic surfaces of the defaced subway cars created an iridescence like that I had seen in photographs of deep-sea fish thousands of fathoms below the ocean surface." The way in which Davidson uses color in this series reflects this very literal sense of bringing light to a world existing in darkness, of exposing what lives underground.

Bruce Davidson is widely acknowledged as one of the most important and influential artists in photography. His work has had a major influence on a generation of photographers, critics, and viewers. At the age of twenty-four, Davidson worked as a freelance photographer for LIFE magazine. A year later, in 1958, he was invited to join Magnum Photos. Shortly thereafter, in 1963, he had a solo exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art.

Davidson continues to conduct workshops and undertake professional commissions throughout the world. He has had one-man exhibitions at the Museum of Modern Art, the Smithsonian Museum of American Art, the Walker Art Center, the International Center of Photography, the Museum of Photographic Arts in San Diego, and the Palais de Tokyo in France. He has received numerous accolades including two awards from the National Endowment of the Arts, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and the Eastman Kodak Reedy Award. His photographs have appeared in numerous publications and his prints have been acquired by many major museums and private collectors worldwide, including Maison Européenne de la Photographie in Paris, Topan's "Masters of Photography" in Japan, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum Ludwig Cologne, and the George Eastman House, Rochester.

For further information, or to request visuals, please contact Margit Erb at 212 334 0010, margit@howardgreenberg.com. Starting April 29th, the exhibition can be viewed at www.howardgreenberg.com.